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## MOSAIC PROTEIN AND RESTRICTION ENDONUCLEASE ASSISTED LIGATION METHOD FOR MAKING THE SAME

A mosaic protein comprising a variety of immunoreactive antigenic epitopes from several genotypes of hepatitis C virus. The mosaic protein provides a sensitive and specific immunological hepatitis detection assay. A restriction enzyme assisted ligation method of making an artificial gene permits controlled construction of mosaic proteins, and allows confirmatory expression of the intermediate gene products.

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